

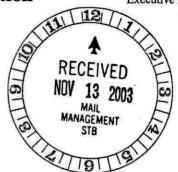
Michael O. Leavitt Governor

State of Utah Department of Transportation

John R. Njord, P.E. Executive Director

November 6, 2003

Office of the Secretary Case Control Unit STB Finance Docket 34075 Surface Transportation Board 1925 K Street, NW Washington D.C. 20423-0001



STB Finance Docket No. 34075 – Environmental Comments

Six County Association of Governments – Construction and

Operation Exemption – Rail Line between Levan and Salina, Utah

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the proposed Central Utah Rail Project. The Six County Association of Governments has been actively pursuing this and we are encouraged by the prospects. They have kept us informed of this project and we hope to see this project move forward.

Foremost, it would be a benefit to the traveling public to see 700 trucks with 42-ton payloads eliminated daily from our two-lane state highways. We would rather see them on interstate highways that are designed and constructed for this purpose.

We are likewise interested in improving safety on these roads by reducing conflicts between semi-trailers and passenger cars.

Finally, we have spent and are spending significant dollars repairing roads that are heavily traveled by the haulers. The public would be better served if this money were used in other areas.

Sincerely,

Dal Hawks

Region 4 Director

Utah!